

SENATE BILL 1021

By Barnes

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary
financial assistance from net lottery proceeds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by
adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

49-4-9__.

(a) To be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE prospective teacher's scholarship, a
student shall:

(1) Not be ineligible for a scholarship under § 49-4-904; and

(2) Meet the requirements of § 49-4-905(a). Section 49-4-905(b) shall
not apply to students seeking Tennessee HOPE prospective teacher's
scholarships;

(3) Be enrolled at an eligible postsecondary institution in a Tennessee
approved teacher education program. A student who is or has been licensed to
teach in Tennessee or in another state shall be ineligible for the scholarship;

(4)

(A) Have successfully completed at least ninety (90) semester
hours towards a baccalaureate degree and have been formally admitted
to a teacher education program; or

(B) Be enrolled in a master of arts in teaching program as a
graduate student;

(5)

(A) Have a cumulative grade point average that meets the academic continuation requirements of § 49-4-911 for Tennessee HOPE scholarships at the time of application for the Tennessee HOPE prospective teacher's scholarship as an undergraduate; or

(B) Have a final undergraduate cumulative grade point average that is sufficient to meet the academic continuation requirements of § 49-4-911, if the student has not previously been enrolled in graduate school and is applying for the scholarship for study in a master of arts in teaching program. If a student applying for the scholarship has been previously enrolled in graduate school and is applying for a Tennessee HOPE prospective teacher's scholarship for study in a master of arts in teaching program, then at the time of application the student shall have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 for all graduate work attempted;

(6) Agree to teach three (3) years in a Tennessee public school within five (5) years after graduation with the baccalaureate degree or the masters degree that the student is pursuing and to repay all funds received under this section if such requirement is not met or if the student does not obtain a license to teach. The number of years that a recipient shall be required to teach shall be three (3) years regardless of the number of years that the student receives the scholarship; and

(7) Make application for the scholarship.

(b) The Tennessee HOPE prospective teacher's scholarship may be awarded for study leading to licensure as a teacher for no more than two (2) years of full-time

attendance at an eligible postsecondary institution. To be eligible to continue to receive the scholarship, a student shall:

(1) Meet all applicable nonacademic requirements for the scholarship;

(2) Be enrolled at an eligible postsecondary institution in a teacher preparation program as an undergraduate student seeking a baccalaureate degree or in a master of arts in teaching program as a graduate student; and

(3)

(A) Maintain continuing academic eligibility by meeting the requirements of § 49-4-911, if the student is seeking a baccalaureate degree; or

(B) Maintain continuing academic eligibility attaining a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) the number of hours required for the masters of arts in teaching program, if the student is seeking a masters degree.

(c) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the general assembly, and any provision of law relating to a shortfall in funds available for postsecondary financial assistance from the net proceeds of the state lottery, a Tennessee HOPE prospective teacher's scholarship shall be ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for full-time attendance for an academic year.

(d) A student receiving a Tennessee HOPE prospective teacher's scholarship shall also receive any other postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds for which the student qualifies under this part.

SECTION 2. The Tennessee student assistance corporation is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act. The Tennessee student assistance corporation shall promulgate rules for the repayment of a scholarship should a recipient fail to

teach three (3) years in a Tennessee public school or should a recipient fail to obtain licensure to teach. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to students seeking postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds in the 2011-2012 academic year and academic years thereafter.